

# Minutes

## Tempe Police Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Board

### March 4, 2021

Minutes of the Tempe Police Public Safety Personnel Retirement System Board meeting hosted virtually via Cisco Webex on Thursday, March 4, 2021, 2:00 p.m.

**Board Members Present (via Cisco Webex):**

Steven Methvin  
Bill Goodman  
Alex Moreno  
Johnny Tse

**Board Members Absent:**

Rob Ferraro

**City Staff Present (via Cisco Webex):**

Rebecca Strisko, Deputy Internal Services Director-HR  
Tammy Milhon, HR Specialist  
Matt Quick, HR Specialist  
Chris Hansen, Risk Manager  
Nichole Martinez, Worker's Compensation Program Specialist  
Susan Buck, Executive Assistant

**Legal Counsel Present (via Cisco Webex):**

Lesli Sorensen

*Chair Steven Methvin called the meeting to order at 2:17 p.m.*

**1. Consideration of Meeting Minutes:**

Motion by Johnny Tse to approve the February 4, 2021 Board meeting minutes and February 4, 2021 Executive Session minutes; second by Alex Moreno. Motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin; Boardmembers Goodman, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Ferraro

**2. Motion to Adjourn to Executive Session, if necessary:**

No Executive Session was held.

**3. New Member:**

Motion by Alex Moreno to approve the new member application of **Quinton Harris**, with pre-existing conditions as noted in file; second by Johnny Tse. Motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin; Boardmembers Goodman, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Ferraro

**4. Applications to Enter the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP):**

Motion by Alex Moreno to approve the applications to enter DROP of **Heath Fink** and **William Jones, Jr.**; second by Bill Goodman. Motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin; Boardmembers Goodman, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Ferraro

**5. Application to Retire from the Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP):**

Motion by Alex Moreno to approve the application of **James R. Peterson** to retire from DROP with a retirement date of March 11, 2021; second by Bill Goodman. Motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin; Boardmembers Goodman, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Ferraro

**6. Status Update on Applications for Accidental Disability Benefits:**

Local Board Secretary Rebecca Strisko provided a status update on the application of **Joseph Manchak**, stating that Mr. Manchak's Independent Medical Exam (IME) is scheduled for March 15, 2021 and the IME report will be submitted for Board consideration once it is received.

Ms. Strisko also provided an update on the application of **Jordan Redd**, noting that staff requested additional records as directed by the Board and will submit them for consideration once received.

**7. ReHearing on Application for Accidental Disability Benefits – Matthew Nunemacher:**

Executive Assistant Susan Buck stated that this item was postponed at the request of the applicant's legal counsel, pending confirmation of additional medical information.

**8. Hearing on Application for Accidental Disability Benefits – Tracie Smith:**

Chair Steven Methvin opened the hearing on the application for accidental disability benefits of Tracie Smith, noting that her initial hearing was held on December 3, 2020 and continued on January 7, 2021. Chair Methvin stated the Board has received Ms. Smith's Independent Medical Examination (IME) report and must consider if the medical documentation submitted is sufficient to make a determination on Ms. Smith's application.

Chair Methvin asked if anyone wished to address the Board. Executive Assistant Susan Buck stated that Ms. Smith was present at the virtual meeting if the Board had any questions for her. Chair Methvin asked for discussion by the Board.

Motion by Alex Moreno to approve the application for accidental disability benefits of **Tracie Smith** based on the IME report and medical information presented in file; second by Bill Goodman. Motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin; Boardmembers Goodman, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Rob Ferraro

The following questions from the Form P5-LB-A, Accidental Disability Questionnaire were read aloud, and the Board verbally answered them for the record:

1. Did the employee file the application after the disabling incident, or within one year of ceasing to be an employee? **YES**
2. Did (or will) the employee terminate by reason of a disability? **YES**
3. Did employment terminate based on a disciplinary issue? **NO**
4. If the member's period of DROP has ended, if applicable, did (or will) the employee terminate by a reason of disability? The Board noted that this question is **not applicable** (Ms. Smith is not in DROP).
5. Is the employee still working a position within their job classification that the Local Board considers a reasonable range of duties position? **NO**
6. Has the employee refused a position within their job classification that the Local Board considered a reasonable range of duties? **NO**
7. Did the injury or condition occur prior to the current PSPRS membership date? **NO**
8. Was the injury or condition the result of an event incurred during the performance of the employee's duty? **YES**

**9. Annual Review of Members Receiving Disability Benefits:**

Local Board Secretary Rebecca Strisko stated that the Tempe PSPRS Local Board Procedures Section G.2 states that at its discretion, the Local Board may require members receiving accidental or ordinary disability benefits to undergo a medical examination to determine whether they are still disabled and qualified for continued disability benefits. Factors to be considered in determining whether to reexamine a member's disability status include:

- the length of time until 20 years of total service is reached (considered "normal retirement")
- the nature and extent of the disabling condition

Ms. Strisko noted that the procedures require that staff periodically provide the Board with a list of Tempe Police members receiving disability benefits and a current list was included in the Board meeting packet. There are members on the list that have less than 20 years of total service. Chair Methvin inquired if there was anyone on the list that boardmembers wanted to review further. Board consensus was not to reexamine anyone.

**10. Board Expenditures – 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2020**

Ms. Strisko stated that information on Board expenditures for the fourth quarter of 2020 was included in the Board meeting packet. There was no further discussion on this item.

**11. Future Meeting Date:**

The next meeting is scheduled for April 1, 2021.

**12. Future Agenda Items:**

There were no future agenda items discussed.

**13. Public Appearances:**

There were no public appearances.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn by Alex Moreno; second by Johnny Tse. Motion passed on a voice vote 4-0.

Ayes: Chair Methvin; Boardmembers Goodman, Moreno and Tse

Nays: None

Absent: Boardmember Ferraro

The meeting adjourned at 2:33 p.m.



Rebecca Strisko, Local Board Secretary